

For his outstanding accomplishments and commitment to the highest ethical standards, Norm was named Realtor of the Year by the Georgia Association of Realtors in 1980. The Georgia Association of Realtors also honored him in 1987 with its President's Award and the Athens Board of Realtors recognized Norm in 1996 with its Lifetime Meritorious Service Award.

Norm and his lovely wife Faye are great Georgians and wonderful friends. Norm is a class act who is well loved in work and at home. It gives me a great deal of pleasure, and it is a privilege to recognize on the floor of the United States Senate the contributions of Norm Grayson to the real estate industry and the State of Georgia. He is an inspiration.●

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF COFFEE GROWERS OF COLOMBIA

● Mr. LEAHY. I wish to speak briefly about the National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia.

The federation is a nonprofit grassroots organization that organizes and monitors the extensive network of coffee growers throughout Colombia. Since 1927, it has worked to build an economically and environmentally sustainable coffee culture, strengthen community networks of coffee growers throughout the country, and promote exports of Colombian coffee worldwide. The federation will celebrate its 80th anniversary on June 27 and should be commended for its accomplishments.

Coffee is grown today in more than half of Colombia's 1,098 municipalities, employing some 2 million people comprising 566,000 families. Many of these people live and work in small towns and rural areas, not unlike the farmers of my own State of Vermont. In fact, several Vermont companies, including Green Mountain Coffee and Coffee Enterprises, sell coffee produced by Colombian coffee growers who are supported by the federation.

In a country where everyone has been affected by the armed conflict and the economic and social disruption it has caused, the Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia has focused increasingly on supporting the social aspects of coffee growers' lives. The federation has worked to bring trained teachers, schools, health clinics, roads, electrification, and other infrastructure to coffee-growing communities. It has provided technical training and the benefits of federation-sponsored research and development to coffee growers to help them improve yields and quality and to market their product. The results speak for themselves. Today, Colombia is the world's second largest coffee exporter by value, totaling \$1.677 billion of coffee exported in 2006.

The Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia should be recognized and commended for the 80 years that it has contributed in important ways to the well-being of the Colombian people.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1585. To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2079. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting, the report of legislative proposals relative to the National Defense Authorization Bill for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2080. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, relative to a study of initiatives to expand the relationship between the Department and Job Corps; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2081. A communication from the Acting Deputy, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of the results of a public-private competition; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2082. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status and results of the Department's List of Institutions of Higher Education Ineligible for Federal Funds; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2083. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Barry M. Costello, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2084. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to exceptions granted by the Secretary for government securities brokers and dealers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2085. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the

Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a modification of the auction process for issuing United States Treasury obligations; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2086. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to material violations or suspected material violations of regulations dealing with Treasury auctions and other Treasury securities offerings; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2087. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Manufactured Home Dispute Resolution Program" ((RIN2502-AH98)(FR-4813-F-03)) received on May 30, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2088. A communication from the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2006 management report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2089. A communication from the Acting Legal Advisor to the Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "MariTel, Inc. and Mobex Network Services, LLC—Petitions for Rule Making to Amend the Commission's Rules to Provide Additional Flexibility for AMTS and VHF Public Coast Station Licensees" ((FCC 07-87)(WT Docket No. 94-257)) received on June 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2090. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "In the Matter of Facilitating Opportunities for Flexible, Efficient, and Reliable Spectrum for Use Employing Cognitive Radio Technologies" ((FCC 07-66)(ET Docket No. 03-108)) received on June 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2091. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "In the Matter of Modifications of Parts 2 and 15 of the Commission's Rules for Unlicensed Devices and Equipment Approval" ((FCC 07-56)(ET Docket No. 03-201)) received on June 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2092. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; 2007 Management Measures" (RIN0648-AV56) received on May 30, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2093. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; U.S. Atlantic Billfish Tournament Management Measures" (RIN0648-AV25) received on May 30, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2094. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law,